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2. *Diary of Richard Smith in the Continental Congress,*
1775-1776. II.

(Continued from the January number.)

Wednesday 17 Jan^l the Votes read, as was a Petition from D^r Benjamin Church in Jail in Connecticut setting forth his piteous Situation asserting his Innocence and pray'g a Release, this was referred to a Com^{ee} — In Grand Com^{ee} on the Propriety of opening Trade after 1 March next it was concluded to trade to the Foreign West India Islands and to open the Trade under certain Regulations to be fixed by a Com^{ee} now chosen. While we were in the midst of this Business a Packet of Letters came from Gen^s Schuyler, Wooster and Arnold, Col. Donald Campbell and others with the unfortunate News that Gen. Montgomery had attempted before Day Break of the 30 of Dec^r to storm Quebec but this gallant Soldier and amiable Man was killed with the first Fire, Brig. Arnold wounded in the Leg and carried off to a Hospital whereby the Command devolved on Col. Campbell who retreated, not being able to make his Men advance. Major MacPherson Aid duCamp to M^r Montgomery was killed with Cap^t Cheeseman and a few more and on the other Side of the City, Arnolds Detachment to the Number of between 3 and 400 Hundred including Major Lamb and his Artillery had made a Lodgment in the Lower Town but was obliged to surrender after 3 Hours Resistance. A Report from the Com^{ee} about a French Artillery Officer who offers his Service and brought a Certificate from the Military School at Strasburgh and Two Commissions of Lieutenancy from the King of France, was referred to D^r Franklin and Col. St Clair to examine his Abilities. 400 Dollars were advanced to a Canadian Prisoner for his Maintenance, he to give his Draught upon the Kings Paymaster at Quebec. a Petition was exhibited from sundry Captains, Lieu^{ts} and Ensigns of Col Bull's Battalion charging their Colonel with Extortion and haughty Behavior and a Com^{ee} was instituted to hear both Parties and report thereon. the Commissions for these Gent^l were ordered to be signed and delivered. A Com^{ee} reported Instructions for the recruiting Officers which were accepted the pay of a Regimental Surgeon is 25 Dollars p^r Month.

Thursday 18 Jan^l the Proceedings read as usual. A Report was made on D^r Church it was opposed and voted out and a Resolve passed that He shall be confined in a more convenient Room and have Liberty to ride out under a Guard. D^r Smith an Associate to Connolley was brought in Prisoner from Maryland, some of Connolleys Letters written since his Confinement were found on Smith and read and the Prisoner consigned to the Com^{ee} of Safety here. myself and several of the New Members signed the Engagement, heretofore entered into while I was absent, not to divulge any Thing while under Consideration or any Thing the Congress agrees to keep secret, on Pain of Expulsion. the Letters rec^d Yesterday concern'g the

Storm of Quebec were again read and M^r Antill, Son of the late Hon. M^r Antill of N Jersey, who brought the Packet, was called in and examined for 2 Hours, he gave a very clear Account of every Circumstance, he was with Gen. Montg'y when he fell. before this Gent^l came in, Hooper moved in a florid Speech that the Delegates may wear Mourning (a Crape round the left Arm) for One Month for Montgomery and that M^r Duché be desired to preach a Sermon, to which Lynch added that a Public Monument be erected to his Memory, the Motions were objected to by Gov^r Ward and others on the Ground that no Mourning is ever worn by any Courts on such Accounts and that the General is already embalmed in the Heart of every good American and that such Proceeding may cause too much alarm at such a critical Juncture these Reasons had their intended Weight. A Com^{ee} of 5 was chosen to report their Opinion what is best to be done in Respect to the Affairs of Canada. M^r Burr Son of the late President of Princeton Colledge behaved well, as they say, in the Affair at Quebec, Our Troops have made a Stand about 3 Miles from that City, Antill recommends Cap^t Hazen to command a Regiment of Canadians and says these are between Hawk and Buzzard but will generally join our Side if we send a strong Force there immediately.

Friday 19. the Votes read. a Report made of some Accounts. 5 New Members added to the Com^{ee} of Claims in the Room of so many now absent. 10,000 Dollars advanced to the Commissioners of the Southern Indian Department. A Report agreed to relative to the procuring of Sailors for South Carolina. the Report for raising 4 new Battal^s in N York was confirmed and the Yorkers are desired to Recommend at least Two Persons for each Office that Congress may take a Choice. a Report made from the Com^{ee} on Canadian Affairs, it is Resolved to forward the new Levies immed'y and that Gen. Wash^g be desired to send a Battalion from his Camp, that another Battalⁿ be raised in Canada, and other Parts of the Report were recommitted after an Opinion of M^r Antills on this Subject had been read. the Papers concerning the Complaint ag^t Col Bull were laid on the Table by the Committee who declined making any Report, the Matter was argued and postponed till Tomorrow. The Col. John Haslett, and Lieut. Col. Gunning Bedford of the Lower Counties Battalion were elected. The Com^{ee} of this Place are to be requested to assist M^r Mease in getting Blankets by desiring the Housekeepers to spare each One or Two. Col. S^t Clairs Battalion is destined for Canada when completed A Motion that the new Troops be inlisted for 3 Years or as long as the War shall continue was opposed by the Northern Colonies and carried in the Negative

Saturday 20 Jan^a The Remainder of the Report about Canada was agreed to, Washington is to detach a General Officer there, the ruling Powers in every Colony are to collect all the Gold and Silver they can for the Service in Canada and 6 or 7 other Articles. Blank Commissions for the New Regiments are ordered to New Hampshire and Connect^t for the greater Dispatch. Report of sundry Acco^s liquidated by the Com^{ee} of

Claims, this Com^{ee} reminded the Congress of Leonard Snowden who was imprisoned here for being concerned with D^r Kearsley and others in traitorous Practices and he, Snowden, was ordered to be released. A Petition was brought in from Cap^t Duncan Campbell praying to be discharged from Jail on his Parole, it was not attended to. Some Powder was ordered for those Companies of Maxwell's who are ready to march to Canada and Tim: Matlack was directed to furnish them with Ball and Flints. Tim. is a Commissary and Clerk in Chief to our Com^{ee} of Claims (this Person who it is said was once a Quaker Preacher is now Col. of the Battalion of Rifle Rangers at Philadelphia). Col. Bull now thought proper to resign his Commission by Writing addressed to the Congress. An Express was ordered to Gen. Wooster at Montreal with Copies of our Votes and to inform of the immediate Succors intended, and the same Express to call on the Com^{ee} of Safety in Jersey.

Sunday I went to Burlington

Wednesday 24 January. I was in Congress. a State of the late Action at Quebec was laid before the House and ordered to be published. 1000 Dollars advanced to Carpenter Wharton the Commissary who goes with the Troops to Albany. A Motion was made by Edw^d Rutledge to appoint a War Office and its Business defined, which was argued and a Com^{ee} of 7 chosen to consider the Plan. most of the Day was spent on a Proposal to address the People of America our Constituents deducing the Controversy ab Initio and informing them of our Transactions and of the present State of Affairs, much was said about Independency and the Mode and Propriety of stating our Dependance on the King, a Com^{ee} was appointed to draw the Address. W Livingston reported an Address to the Canadians which was agreed to with some Alteration and ordered to be translated into French and printed. Edw^d Antill (made L^t Col. to Hazens Regiment) was desired to take £1000 in hard Money with Him to the Gen. in Canada. it was agreed to advance to M^r Hazen £200 to be deducted from the Amount of his Losses, and to allow something to Him and Antill for their Expences in coming Down and going back, — Brig. Prescott being expected in Town to night an Order passed to keep Him under Guard till Tomorrow. Col. De Haas who supplies the Place of Bull in the first Penns^a Battalion made Return of what Arms are wanting for his Men whereupon it was recommended to the City Com^{ee} to procure all the Arms they can for the Soldiers about to march to Canada. Gov^r Ward shewed me a Recommendatory Letter from a Canadian Seigneur, a Captive here, in Favor of the Gov^rs Son now a Prisoner in Quebec.

Thursday 25 Jan^y the Votes of Yesterday read. 4000 Dollars ordered to be sent by the Return of Prescott's Guard, to the Com^{ee} of Safety of our Colony for purchasing Arms for Maxwells Men. Letters were rec^d from Lancaster, Gen. Washington and others, some of them committed to a Com^{ee} A Petition was read from Matthias Aspden for Permission to load a French Vessel with Produce, it was referred to a Com^{ee} A Com^{ee} was elected for and reported a Conference with Gen. Prescott and Cap^t Chase

relative to Prescotts Cruelty to Col. Ethan Allen and others, he pleads the Commands of Carlton his Superior Officer the same Com^{ee} enquired of Col. Antill who charges Prescott with great Malevolence and bad Behavior to our People, the Matter is to be further sifted. A Com^{ee} was appointed for and reported a Conversation with Col. Hazen about his Parole of not serving ag^t the King, this from the Circumstances of it, was tho^t void and Hazen reappointed Col. and Edw^d Antill L^t Col. of the 2^d Battalion of Canadians. James Mease was chosen a Commissary to the Troops raised and to be raised in Penns^a for the Continental Service. Gen. Washⁿ inclosed some late English Newspapers in his Letter and informs of the British Troops meeting a Storm and putting back to Milford Haven. his own Army is much in Want of Money and Powder and other Military Stores. 10,000 Dollars voted on Account, to the Troops in North Carolina. 2 or 3 Ships of War are fitting out there for our Service accord^s to Report. The Com^{ee} of Safety in N Jersey are desired to forward the Captive Officers Baggage from Walpack to Lancaster. A Report from a Com^{ee} was agreed to purporting that D^r Franklin shall procure from France or elsewhere a Monument to the Value of £300, this Cur^r, for Gen. Montgomery and that D^r W^m Smith Provost of the College be desired to compose an Oration in Praise of the Gen. to be delivered in Presence of the Congress.

Friday 26 Jan^{ry} the Votes read. 1000 Dollars advanced to the Indian Commissioners of the Middle Department. A Com^{ee} chosen to examine Commissary Lowrey and Mease's Fees of One and a Quarter $\frac{3}{4}$ Cent it being suggested to be extravagant A Petition from some Citizens of Philad^a praying that no Apprentices may be inlisted without Consent of the Masters was neglected. A Letter was read from Gen. Lee Dated from Connec^t setting forth that he is on his Way for the Defence of N York and has gathered a large Body of Connecticut Militia and inclosing a Letter to him from the Com^{ee} of Safety at N York disapproving of his Proceed^{gs} this occasioned a Motion from E. Rutledge and Duane that a Com^{ee} may be appointed to repair for New York forthwith and agree with the Com^{ee} of Safety there and with Gen. Lee upon the proper Measures of Defence after an Argument of 4 or 5 Hours Harrison, Lynch and Allen were fixed upon to proceed to N York accordingly. Some Letters from Pittsburg about Indian Affairs were postponed.

Saturday 27 January. Letters from Gen. Washington L^t Stirling and others, my Lord has taken a Transport at Sandy Hook and 2 more Vessels are taken by one of the Massachusetts armed Ships. On Motion of Wilson (an Indian Commissioner for the Midde Department) One of the Indian Chiefs was constituted a Colonel and is to be presented with a Gorget. the Matter of inlisting Apprentices and small Debtors was committed to M^r Kean, Paine and myself. A Petition was produced from the Debtors in Philad^a Goal praying that the several Colony Assemblies may be directed to devise Methods to free all Prisoners for Debt this Petition was not read the President thinking it coram non Judice. a Petⁿ was read and

committed, from Keppele and Steinmetz pray'g Recompense for a Ship and Cargo carried into Boston to the Value of £ 5000 and upwards. M^r Inge of Maryland permitted to export Produce from that Colony in Return for Canvass imported. Duane from a Com^{ee} reported on the Indian Treaty at Albany and it was adopted and the Secret Com^{ee} directed to import a large Quantity of Indian Goods for that and the other Two Departments. The Indian Treaty at Pittsburg and Proceedings as returned by the Middle Commissioners were consigned to a Committee of 5. the Com^{ee} of Claims reported a Settlement of L^t Col. Wynkoops Accounts for bringing down Prisoners from Albany, it appearing that the Officers have lived very extravagantly a Resolve passed that the Com^{ee} at Kingston in Ulster County shall settle the Rates of maintaining the Captives there. M^r Kean moved on Behalf of Col. Hazen that he may have the Rank of first Col. in Canada otherwise he declines the Service this was opposed and a Com^{ee} of 2. appointed to confer with Hazen on the Subject.

Monday 29 Jan^r the Votes read and Two English Newspapers of the 8th of November. a Report was made on the Inlistment of Apprentices and Debtors, objected to and recommitted. Report made on Gen Prescott and that Gentleman ordered to be confined in the Common Jail of Philad^a by a Vote of 8 Colonies to 2. Cap^t Chase is to go out on his Parole. Cap^t Nelsons Comp'y of Riflemen from the back Parts of Penns^a was taken into Pay and a Com^{ee} of 3 nominated to agree with him on the Terms and Road of Marching. Wyth made Report on Gen Washingtons Gen Schuylers and L^t Stirling's Letters. Letters were rec^d from Gov^r Trumbull and others. Com^{ee} reported that Hazen accepts the Command as offered to Him and desires to be Recommended to the Generals in Canada. A Petition presented from D^r Wheelock for more Money for his Indian College at Dartmouth in New Hampshire referred to a Com^{ee}

Tuesday Jan^r 30. A Petition was read from a Serjeant in Cap^t (now L^t Col.) W^m Allens Comp'y pray'g Pay or some Recompence from his Cap^t it was ordered to lie on the Table. A Report on Apprentices, small Debtors and Infants inlisting was a second Time made, altered, passed and ord^d to be published. a Com^{ee} of 5 was chosen to consider the Representation from the Convention of N York. Rob. Morris was added to D^r Franklin and Dickinson the secret Com^{ee} of Correspondence M^r President laid before Us a Desire of some Persons that Gen Prescott may be discharged from Goal on Account of an old Wound and his ill State of Health, the D^r Cadwallader and Shippen Jun^r are requested to visit Him and make Report. D^r W^m Smith had Leave to inspect the Letters relative to Gen. Montgom^rs Death, the D^r being to pronounce an Oration on the Occasion. M^r Kean informed Congress that 200 and odd Men in Tryon County are inlisted in the Kings Regiment of Royal Emigrants, M^r M^r Kean was desired to acquaint Gen Schuyler of it by Letter. D^r Franklin from a Com^{ee} reported inter alia in Favor of the Application from D^r Huddleston for Release alledging the Custom of Armies to set free all Surgeons taken Prisoners, it was objected to and postponed. A Bill of Exchange from

Cambridge on the Continental Treasurers for 1000 Dollars, was ordered to be honored. the Report for granting a Bounty for Inlistment in the New England Army was agitated and postponed because Virginia and So. Carolina are not fully represented. Morton reported on Cap^t Nelsons Company of Riflemen which was agreed to. A Letter was rec^d by the Jersey Delegates from M^r Faesch offering to cast Cannon for the American Service. Yesterday I went with some of the Delegates to view the Boom Chain, Fire Rafts and Two Men of War on the Stocks One of 32 and the other of 28 Guns at Kensington. 30,000 Dollars voted on Account to the Com^{ee} for Building the 13 new Men of War. on the 24th Inst^t an Order passed for allow^g the Pay master or Captains to retain Part of the Soldiers Pay with their Consent, to sustain their Wives and Children.

Wednesday Jan^y 31. Votes read and Letters from L^d Stirling Col. Maxwell and others. Maxwell attend'g Paine and Wisner were named to confer with Him and they made a Report and we furnished the Col with Copies of that and a former Order. Cap^t Dempster of the Blue Mountain Valley lately taken by L^d Stirling having a private Property on Board, the same was now restored to Him by Congress at the Request of his Lordship, Quære Whether the Mates Adventure was not also allowed to Him. Wyth reported on the Remainder of Wash^{ns} Schuylers and L^d Stirlings Letters, part of it about the Captive Officers travelling Expences was recommitted. The Powers of the Massa^t Delegates expiring this day they seemed to be of Opinion that they could not attend again till their new Delegations arrived but the Appointments published in Two News Papers being read, Congress was unanimous to accept them. the Affair of Prescotts Confinement was agitated and postponed after the Physicians' Opinion had been read. Something done about the Indians of the Middle Departm^t M^rKean moved to reconsider the Resolution of Yesterday about small Debtors, Apprentices and Infants inlisting, he was oppugned and withdrew his Motion.

Thursday 1 Feb. 1776. the Votes of Yesterday read accord'g to Custom Gen: Prescott allowed a Servant and Physicians to see Him in Goal, after a Proposition to allow Him the Liberty of the Hall and Yard and to see his Friends had been voted out by a small Majority. the Report taken up and spoken to about fixing the Price of Expresses and their Stages from hence to Cambridge it was postponed until D^r Franklin the Postmaster has consulted his Deputies. S. Adams was added to the Com^{ee} for Stating Expences. having little business today the House broke up at 2 oCloc which is much earlier than usual.

Friday 2. Letters from Gen. Washington, Gen. Arnold, Col. Lord Stirling and others particularly from Gen Schuyler contain'g a full Acco^t of his Proceedings with the Tories in Tryon and of his Treaty with Sir John Johnson and the Scotch People there and with the Neighboring Indians. the Jersey Delegates rec^d a Letter from Azariah Dunham Esq^r Second in Command on the Expedition to Queens County contain'g a Narrative of Col. Heards Transactions. M^rKean, myself and Wisner appointed to make

out a compleat List of the Captive Officers and privates with their Women and Children and where stationed. Cap^t Dempster ordered to be discharged. Prescott allowed to recieve Visits from his Bro^r Officers and to have Pen Ink and Paper. Lewis informed of several Vessels returned to New York from unsuccessful Voyages for Arms and Ammunⁿ a Com^{ee} was chosen to deliberate upon some of the Letters rec^d today. E Rutledge reported the Substance of some Papers about the Southern Indians that they are disposed to live quietly and take no Part on either Side. Ward from a Com^{ee} reported that the Petⁿ of Kepple and Steinmetz pray^g Compensation for their Ship and Cargo detained by Gen. Howe, ought not to be granted. A Memorial from the Indian Preacher Sampson Occum for establishing Missionaries in the Indian Country was referred to a Committee. adjourned till Monday Morn^g.

Monday 5 Feb. The Minutes read. Dickinson acquainted Congress that D^r Brian of Trenton a Surgeon on Halfpay had rec^d Orders to repair to the Ministerial Army in Boston and desired Leave so to do, this was rejected by all but Dickinson (and perhaps was a Contrivance of Bryan to save his Half-pay) Wyth reported on Gen Schuylers Letters which was passed. Wyth reported on the Rev. M^r Occum's Proposals, Fowler and Johnson Two Indians intended for Missionaries are to inform upon what Terms they will act in that Capacity. The Compan^y from hence (Pennsylv^a) already marched to the Northward having very defective Arms, Gen. Schuyler is directed, after Opposition from Duane and others, to cause an Examination of them and supply the Deficiency with the Arms he lately seized in Tryon County. A Letter rec^d from Col. Maxwell giving Notice that he will march one Comp^y tomorrow and 3 others directly after. D^r Cadwallader certifying that Gen. Prescott's Wound (rec^d at the Battle of Fontenoy) is bad, his Room in Jail damp and his Case dangerous, he was indulged with Liberty to take Lodgings in the City Tavern under a Guard from the Barracks. Duane presented several Papers from the Convention of N York desiring to know Whether they may admit Two Delegates from Staten Island chosen since the Interdict was laid on that Island, they were canvassed and postponed. A Petition from the City Com^{ee} desiring to know the Determinⁿ respecting Tea was postponed because Rob. Morris is not present. Gen Schuylers Narrative of his Transactions with Sir John and the Tories was ord^d to be published in the Newspapers The Foreigner whom D^r Franklin and S^t Clair were to examine as to his Proficiency in the Knowledge of Artillery was now recommended to Gen Schuyler for Preferment, tho some members, Paine and Sherman in particular, did not approve of employing in our Service Foreign Papists. Douglass is our Commodore on the Lakes.

Tuesday 6 Feb. the Minutes read. Col. Heard attending with 18 Tories from Queens County, Crane, M^cKean and E. Rutledge were named to take his Account of the Expedition, which being reported, the Prisoners are ordered under Guard to N York to be examined and secured by the Convention there who are to report thereon to Us. A Com^{ee} of 5 was

chosen to get Naval Stores from N Carolina to our Men of War building in New England. Letters from Commissary Lowrey and others. A Petition was presented from 3 Captains in Maxwells Battalion for the Allowance to the Recruit'g Officers of 10/ for each Man inlisted, which was granted for the 2 first Jersey Reg^{ts} by 6 Col^s to 2. the last or Dayton's Reg^t is already allowed it. Two Subalterns were appointed as recommended by the Com^{ee} of Lancaster.

Wednesday 7. Letters from L^d Stirling and Harrison One of the Delegates gone to N York and from the Com^{ee} at Lancaster. 10,000 Dollars granted to Commiss'y Mease on Account and 250,000 to the Army at Cambridge and 20,000 to the Marine Com^{ee}. E. Rutledge myself and Duane were chosen to look over the Journals and prepare a State of the Business before the Congress. 2 Committees were consolidated and desired to have all the Officers Prisoners put upon Parole, such of these as are at Trenton to be boarded in that Neighborhood. Acco^{ts} reported and allowed and some Subalterns appointed. Several Com^{ees} chosen. A Frenchman who had brought into this Port Ammunition now requested Leave to export Produce therefor, it was referred to the Secret Com^{ee}. Duane's Draught of a Resolution about the Deputies from Richmond County was canvassed, altered by Chase and forgot by the Interference of other Matters. A Controversy Whether We have yet determined the Affair of Tea. Some Regulations were presented by Lewis about Suttlers in the Northern Army.

Thursday 8 Feb. Votes read. 12,000 Dollars granted for the 4 New York Battal^s now raising. 100 Dollars ordered to be presented to the French Artillery Officer to bear his Charges to Albany. A Report from the Secret Com^{ee} in Favor of the Martineco Man was agreed to. Col. Bull offering his Service was employed to guard the Money to Cambridge. the Form of a Parole settled. Morton, Lewis and Wilson elected to contract for Victualling the Battalions in Chester, Cumberland and York Counties. Dickinson moved to advance Money to a Canadian Gent^l. Prisoner at Trenton, was opposed and dropt his Motion. Debate on a Report allowing a Vessel at Norwich in Connec^t to go out with her Cargo, it was postponed Conolly allowed to walk the Prison Yard 2 Hours every Day on Report of his Physician Dr. Rush. A Cask of Powder allowed to Col. S^t Clairs Rifle-men to shoot at Marks. A Memorial was read from the Com^{ee} of Safety in Penns^a about Powder Mills and a Motion made by Alexander and others to desire them to manufacture 20 or 30 Ton of our Saltpetre immediately. Duane's Motion was passed, to refer the Acceptance of the Staten Island Deputies and to take off the Interdict, to the N York Conventⁿ.

Friday 9 Feb. Minutes read and Letters from Gen^l Washⁿ Schuyler Wooster and Arnold and from the N Jersey Convention and a Packet of intercepted Letters from England taken by Manley inclosing private Signals of the Men of War and Transports. Copies of these Signals ordered to Admiral Hopkins and to the Delegates of each Colony. the Jersey Convention recommend Elias Dayton for Col. Anthony Waters White for L^d Col.

and Francis Barber for Major of the 3^d Battalion raising there and they were now chosen unanim'y and their Commissions made out the Convention also desire Directions about Tea saying that People sell and use it on a supposed Connivance of Congress. the Letters from our Gen^s were Com^d to a Com^{ee} of 5. Debates ensued about disposing of the Powder arrived here in Cap^t Craig and 2 Tons were allotted to Penns^a in Part of what has been borrowed 1 Ton to N Carolina as formerly voted and the Rest left for Considⁿ the Manufacture of the Saltpetre was put under the Direction of our Secret Com^{ee} by a Vote 5 Colonies to 4, the latter wishing that the Penns^a Com^{ee} of Safety might have Charge of it. Maryland say they have no Gunpowder at present. M^r Gerry from Massac^s Bay took his Seat. adjourned till Monday.

Monday 12 Feb. Our Com^{ee} sent to N York made Report of their Proceedings. A Letter from Gen. Lee by Express, it appears that he will have soon above 5000 Troops and Militia at New York, Debates whether to send Him more Force and from whence. A Motion by the Virginia Delegates for 3 Battalions to be raised there on Continental Pay in Addition to the 6 already on Foot, occasioned a warm Controversy and was at last postponed. Hewes made a Report which was accepted, on the Mode of getting Naval Stores conveyed from N Carolina to the Northern Colonies. much Time was spent on the Means of Manufacturing Saltpetre and erecting Powder Mills, agreed to put 50 Ton of Saltpetre into the Hands of the Pennsylvania Com^{ee} of Safety and to confirm their Contracts, agreed to send 10 Ton to Massachusetts Bay, 10 Ton to New York and on Vote Whether to send 10 Ton to Connecticut the Colonies were equally divided, consequently it passed in the Negative In Consequence of Advertisements for that purpose from the Com^{ee} of Safety here, Proposals have been made by 8 or 10 Persons for erect'g Powder Mills in Penn^a and Jersey. A Motion by M^r Kean to put 250 Stand of Arms just arrived into the Hands of the Companies here and then they will be ready to march for Quebec, was thrust out of Notice by other interfering Matters. A Note was rec^d from D^r Smith about inviting the Gen. Assembly, Corporation, Associators &c. to hear the Oration next Monday, it was given to the Com^{ee} on Gen. Montgomerys Monument.

Tuesday 13. Votes read. the Question Whether the 3 Battal^s in Virginia shall be taken into Continental Service passed in the Negative 8 Colonies to 3, and one divided. it was agreed to pay the Two first Battal^s there from Nov^r last. 30,000 Dollars advanced for the Troops in Virginia and the Field Officers of the 6 Battalions there, were now elected by Ballot which is our Customary Method. a Major Gen. and Adjutant General were asked for by the Virgians and a Com^{ee} of 5 chosen to consider of a Southern Military Department. Letters from the Jersey Convention and from the Field Officers of Dayton's Reg^t were read and com^d to myself, Bartlett and S. Adams. 600 Dollars advanced to Fairlamb the Commissary in Chester County, and several large sums ordered for sundry Uses. Wilson brought in the Draught of an Address to our Constituents which was very long,

badly written and full against Independency (Wilson perceiving the Majority did not relish his Address and Doctrine never thought fit to stir it again) Chase gave Notice that he would move tomorrow for Orders to Admiral Hopkins to seize all Ships of Great Britain and to recommend to all the Colonies to fit out Privateers. A Direction given that M^cKean should request the City Com^{ee} to delay publishing the Sellers of Tea in the Papers till further Order. Some Money advanced for Gen Lee's Troops in New York and for Col. John Dickinsons who goes on Thursday with a Detachment of Associators from hence to that City. agreed to continue the Pay of Cap^t Bernard Romans during his Stay in Philad^a on public Business.

Wednesday 14 Feb. Letters from Schuyler, Wooster and Arnold rec^d and committed. some Acco^{ts} reported. Application was made from the Shipwrights at this Place in the Continental Service praying Interposition of Congress to stop their Servants and Apprentices whom they cannot hinder from going on the Expedition tomorrow to N York accordingly a Recommendation took place to that Purpose. A Proposition was mentioned for sending Two of our Body to Canada with Charles Carrol Esq^r and John Carol a popish Priest both of Maryland with a View of confirming the Friendship and to induce a Coincidence with our Measures. most of the Day passed in Grand Com^{ee} on Trade.

Thursday 15. the Votes read. I reported on the Jersey Letters. 30,000 Dollars granted on Acco^t to Commissary Lowrey, 5000 Dol^s to the Convention or Com^{ee} of Safety for purchasing Arms, the Long Island Arms in Heards Hands to Col. Dayton and Half a Ton of Powder to the Jersey Conventⁿ or Com^{ee} of Safety. A Letter being rec^d from Gen. Lee the Associators were countermanded going to N York. A Report was made and agreed to about the Mode of fortifying Hudsons River. some Gent^l were selected to go into Canada viz. D^r Franklin, Sam^l Chase and Charles Carol of Carolton Esq^{rs} together with the Rev. John Carol. 150 Arms ordered to Maxwells Troops out of the Parcel just arrived. 8 Ton of Powder ordered into Canada from hence. the Com^{ee} of Safety at N York desired to prosecute the Discovery of the Lead Mine at New Canaan. the Cannon Com^{ee} required to procure what Brass can be collected for Casting Cannon which may be done at the Air Furnace in N York, at Faesch's Iron Works near Elizabeth Town and at other places. 5 Ton of Powder said to be arrived at Egg Harbor and gone thro Brunswick to New York, a Brimstone Mine is said to be at a Place called the Roundabout upon the Raritan between Amboy and Brunswick

Friday 16 Feb. After various Subjects were discussed and decided upon 4 or 5 Hours were spent in Grand Com^{ee} on Trade, Harrison offered some Propositions in Lieu of the Report heretofore delivered in from a Com^{ee} on the necessary Regulations, Wyth also offered Propositions whereof the first was that the Colonies have a Right to contract Alliances with Foreign Powers, an Objection being offered that this was Independency there ensued much Argument upon that Ground, a leading

Question was given Whether this Proposⁿ shall be considered by the Com^{ee} it was carried in the Affirmative 7 Colonies to 5. then it was debated and postponed, afterwards the Regulations of the Trade were handled and finally whether it shall be opened or not and when, upon this Head Chase spoke largely against carrying on Trade at present and Harrison and E Rutledge vehemently for it. there was no Determination.

Saturday 17 Feb. the Votes read Wyth made a Report on the Letters from the several Generals which was gone thro. it was determined that Gen. Lee shall command in Canada. some Cannon and Military Stores ordered there from New York. 35000 Dollars are to be sent by Delegate Floyd to the N York Convention for the Troops there, Gen Schuyler ordered down to N York (an Invitation was sent to the several Delegates to the Funeral of M^r John Cadwallader this Afternoon) Duane reported the State of the Treasury whereupon the follow'g Resolutions passed,

Resolved That a standing Committee of Five be appointed for superintending the Treasury That it shall be the Business of this Com^{ee} to examine the Accounts of the Treasurers and from Time to Time to report to Congress the State of the Treasury. To employ and instruct proper Persons for liquidating the Public Accounts with the different Paymasters and Commissaries in the Continental Service and the Conventions, Committees of Safety and others who have been or shall be intrusted with the Public Money and from Time to Time to report the State of such Accounts to Congress. To superintend the Emission of Bills of Credit To obtain from the different Assemblies and Conventions of the United Colonies Accounts of the Number of Inhabitants in each Colony according to the Resolution of Congress on that Subject.

The Members chosen M^r Duane M^r Nelson M^r Gerry M^r Smith and M^r Willing. Four Millions of Dollars more voted unan'y to be struck under like Regulations with the former Six Millions and it was agreed to have one Million of them in small Bills and to put the Superintendence under the above Com^{ee} John Halstead was appointed Dep. Commissary in Canada. Some Acco^{ts} were reported by M^r Willing Chairman of the Com^{ee} of Claims. John Adams, Wyth and Sherman were chosen to prepare Instructions and a Commission for the Commissioners going to Canada. A Report brought in for dividing the Colonies into 3 Military Departments and fixing the Arrangements it was postponed. A Move to suffer Lieut. Felton to go to England on Acco^t of Sickness was denied. M^r Lewis is engaged to procure Shoes for Part of the Army he has had a Parcel made in Jersey because cheaper than elsewhere. In the Even'g I attended the Treasury Com^{ee} at the City Tavern

Monday 19 Feb. some little Business being done, the Congress, attended by the Penns^a Assembly and other invited Bodies with a vast Crowd of Spectators, proceeded in State to the Dutch Calvinist Church where D^r Smith pronounced an Oration for Gen. Montgomery. the Band of vocal and Instrumental Music was good but played too low for the Place

the light Infantry and Rifle Rangers walked on both Sides of the Congress going and coming.

Tuesday 20. M^r Crane went Home and M^r Sergeant attended in his Stead by Virtue of the new Appointment in these Words,

In Provincial Congress New Jersey

Brunswick 14 Feb. 1776.

On Motion

Resolved Unanimously That W^m Livingston, John De Hart Rich^d Smith, John Cooper and Jonatⁿ Dickinson Sergeant Esq^r be Delegates to represent this Province in the Continental Congress for the Space of One Year or untill others shall be legally appointed in their Stead and that they or any Three or more of them have full and ample Power to consent and agree to all Measures which such Congress shall deem necessary, and this Province bind themselves to execute to the utmost of their Power all Resolutions which the said Congress may adopt, and further if the said Congress shall think necessary to adjourn we do authorize our said Delegates to represent and act for this Province in any One Congress to be held by Virtue of such Adjournment during their Delegation.

A true Copy from the Minutes

W^m Patterson Sec^y

W^m Livingston was added to the Cannon Com^{ee} and they were authorized to contract for Cannon. Chase drew a Form, which I altered, for disposing of the Ship Blue Mountain Valley and her Cargo, no Judge of the Admiralty being yet appointed in Jersey, this Matter was debated and the Necessity of taking the whole Government from the Kings Substitutes was descanted upon and postponed. Reports of Acco^{ts} settled by the Com^{ee} of Claims were made. A Petition and sundry Papers on the Wyoming Dispute were read spoken to and deferred. a few Arms granted to compleat Maxwells Battalion. A Guard of the Soldiers destined for Canada was ordered to escort the Powder going there. Waynes Battalion was ordered for N York when properly armed. Lewis, Alsop and P. Livingston were directed to forward to Gen Washⁿ at Cambridge the 5 Tons of Powder now at New Brunswick

Wednesday 21 Feb. Letters from Gen. Schuyler and others read and committed to 3 Members. the Papers about the Wyoming Dispute and those about the Limits or proposed temporary Line between Virginia and Penns^a were referred to Hewes, W^m Livingston, Paca, Chase and Duane from the Treasury Com^{ee} made several Reports which were accepted, establishing the Denominations of the 4 Millions. one Million of them is to be in $\frac{2}{3}$ ^{ds}, $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{3}$ ^d, and $\frac{1}{6}$ th of a Dollar and the other 3 in Bills of One Dollar 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7 and 8 Dollars, but more of the 1 and 2 than of the others. an Office is to be established by the Com^{ee} and Clerks employed and all Assemblies, Conventions Com^{ees} of Safety, Paymasters and others who have rec^d Public Money are to settle their Accounts at this Office &c. Duane was the Author of this Plan. Willing from the Com^{ee} of Claims reported

some Acco^{ts} W^m Livingston moved that the Thanks of the Congress be given to D^r Smith for his Oration on Gen. Montgomery and that he be desired to make it public, this was objected to for several Reasons the chief was that the D^r declared the Sentiments of the Congress to continue in a Dependency on G Britain which Doctrine this Congress cannot now approve, Principal Speakers for the Motion Duane, Wilson, Willing, against it Chase, John Adams, Wyth E Rutledge, Wolcott, Sherman at length M^r Livingston withdrew his Motion.

Thursday 22. the minutes read, An Application was made from the Jersey Convention to know Whether the Battalion of Minute Men under Col. Charles Stewart and L^t Col. Mark Thompson which are getting ready for N York at the Requisition of Gen Lee, shall march or not? and if so, desiring some Arms for them, after Debate the Battalion was countermanded. Letters from Gen. Washington L^d Stirling and others were read and referred to a Com^{ee} of the whole, Gov^r Ward in the Chair, the General complains that he cannot get Men or Arms enough, that at least 2000 Men in his Camp are with out Firelocks and the New England Men are averse to inlisting for a longer Term than One Year and not fond of serving under any but Officers of their own choosing. Harrison proposed that 3 Millions of Dollars shall be given Annually to the 4 New England Governments and they to carry on the War their own Way, After these Subjects had been argued and sundry Remedies proposed, the Com^{ee} rose without Determination. the Companies of Waynes Reg^t ordered to N York as fast as they can be got ready. Leave was given for the Colonels of several Reg^{ts} in Penn^a to purchase Arms for their Corps and to draw for the Amount on the Com^{ee} of Safety here which was on Motⁿ of Wilson. Paine and others wished a Com^{ee} to be raised to consider of the speediest Methods of manufact^g Fire Arms in America, deferred.

Friday 23 Feb. the Votes read Carter Braxton Esq^r from Virginia took his Seat. A Com^{ee} of one from each Colony, Sergeant for N Jersey, was balloted for to superintend Saltpetre and Lead Matters and a Sett of Recommendations to all the Colonies on those Heads and to erect Powder Mills was passed, these were presented by John Adams and are ordered to be published. Ward Chairman of the Secret Com^{ee} informed Congress that 2 of the Continental Vessels with Merchandize are taken by the British Men of War and desired to know Whether other Two shall be sent which was carried in the Affirmative after Debate. Application was made for the Discharge of 13 Servants inlisted in Cap^t Harmans Comp^y witho^{ut} Consent of their Masters, a Com^{ee} of 3 was appointed to inquire into it. A Com^{ee} of 5 was elected to encourage the Manufacture of small Arms in all the Colonies. £600 in Gold ordered to be collected by the Treasurers for the Expences of our Ambassadors to Canada, J Adams presented a Sett of Instructions for them which were recom^d that some Matter may be added Debates about the several Powers of the Treasury Com^{ee} and the Com^{ee} of Claims and a Proposal for consolidating them took Rise from Duane's desiring Advice Whether the Public Acco^{ts} shall be settled in the

Several Colonies by able Accountants employed by the 'Treas'y Com^{ee} or whether the Accounts shall be sent here, the Members inclined to the latter but it was postponed the Two Stoves in our Room (the Assembly Room in the State House) were ordered by general Consent to be taken down as affecting the Health and Eyesight of the Members adj^d till Monday.

Monday 26 Feb. the Votes read, and a Letter from Gen Lee inform'g that he will set out for Canada in a few Days, and a Letter from the Jersey Convention desiring Two more Battalions and Two Companies of Artillery may be raised there for the immediate Defence of the Province, this was referred to the Com^{ee} on the Gen^l Letters. 6000 Dollars advanced to Carpenter Wharton the Commissary. 22000 Dollars ordered to the Maryland Delegates to be exchanged for Gold and Silver in that Colony, £8000 being there offered on Delivery of the Paper Money. An Order passed after long Debate that all the Shipping in the United Colonies now bound to G Britain, Ireland or the British West Indies in Virtue or under Color of a former Resolve allowing Produce to be exported for importing Military Stores, shall be immed'y stopped till further Order and this Resolution to be published, and the further Consideration of that Subject and whether the Custom Houses shall be shut up was referred to a Com^{ee} of 5. Agreed to pay a French Printers Expences and to give Him 25 Half Joes to remove Himself, his Family and Types to Canada and there set up a free Press. A Bill from the Paymaster at Cambridge for 80,000 Dollars being presented for Acceptance was postponed.

Tuesday 27. A Motion by E. Rutledge to countermand Gen. Lee's Journey to Canada and send him to command the Southern Colonies was discussed and postponed till Tomorrow. A Report from a Com^{ee} was confirmed which divides the Country into 3 Military Districts each to be commanded by some General Officers under the Commander in Chief viz. the 4 N England Colonies in the Eastern District, N York N Jersey Penns^a Delaware and Maryland in the Middle District and the Colonies South in the Southern District and it is understood that Canada composes a 4th or Northern District. Some N England Delegates urged to have N York in their District sed non Allocatur. An Order passed request'g the Jersey Convention to secure the Ship and Cargo at Elizabeth Town till further Direction. Rob. Morris produced Letters just rec^d from Bristol with a Copy of the Ministerial Bill for seizing all American Ships which were read, One Letter says their American Army will be about 25000 Strong, Part of it to be directed ag^t the Southern Colonies Part ag^t N. York, that the Whigs are under the Marquis of Rockingham and will desert Us if We aim at Independency, otherwise not, that Commissioners are certainly coming out to treat, that the Scotch Regiments in the Dutch Service are engaged to come here. the Bill is very long and cruel. 100 Dollars voted to a Canadian for his Assistance to Montgom'ys Troops and he is to be recommended to the Commanding Officer in Canada.

Wednesday 28 Feb. Votes read 20,000 Dollars advanced to Commis-

sary Mease. A Report was delivered in by J Adams that 5000 Troops be kept up at N York, that 2 more Battalions and 2 Artillery Comp^s be raised in Jersey &c, it was put off. A Report made by Wyth on Gen Schuylers Letters was partly agreed to, by one Article of it the Jersey Delegates are desired to send the General a Quantity of Steel. E Rutledge renewed his Motion to send Gen Lee to the Southward it was postponed but M^r Lee is to stay his Journey to Canada till further Order. Wilson made a partial Report about the Captives which was confirmed, by Part of it the Com^{ees} of Observation and Inspection where Prisoners are stationed are to oversee them and imprison them if their Behavior deserves it. A Petition from a Frenchman who has bro^t Half a Ton of Powder and the rest of his Cargo in Molasses &c for Leave to export Produce to the Amount of his whole Cargo was argued and the Prayer granted under the Conditions that several other Foreign Vessels have had.

Thursday 29. M^r Whipple of New Hampshire took his Seat. the Minutes read as was a Letter from Gen. Washington inclosing a Letter from Lord John Drummond to Gen. Robertson wherein his Lordship of his own Accord, takes Steps for a Treaty and desires Passports for Commissioners on the Part of the Congress. 4 Hours were spent in Grand Com^{ee} on Trade without any Conclusion, by a former Resolve Trade opens Tomorrow under the Restrictions of the Association. the Points now agitated were the Expediency and Probability of contracting foreign Commercial Alliances and chiefly with France and Spain, and the Advantages and Disadvantages of attempting to carry on Trade in our present Circumstances, much was said about declaring our Independency on G Britain when it appeared that 5 or 6 Colonies have instructed their Delegates not to agree to an Independency till they, the Principals are consulted, the President (Hancock) moved that Madeira Wine may be imported notwithstanding the Association, he meant to please the Southern Delegates who insist on having Wine, but no Question was put upon it. Hewes had a Petition from a Foreigner who has imported Military Stores, praying Leave to load with Produce but Congress adjourned in the Moment of Presentation.

Friday 1 March. the Votes read and Letters from New Hampshire about a Dispute there on their setting up an Independent Form of Government, these were committed to 3. the Report for raising 2 more Regiments and 2 Artillery Companies in N Jersey was considered and rejected. Some Quæries of Commissary Mease were referred to a Com^{ee} of 3. a Com^{ee} of 3 was appointed to Six new Brig. Generals were chosen by Ballot viz 1 Armstrong of Penns^a 2 Thompson of Penns^a now at Cambridge 3 Lewis of Virginia 4 Moore of N Carolina 5 L^d Stirling 6 Howe of N Carol^a and their Stations assigned in the Middle and Southern Departments Armstrong is to go to Virginia and together with Lewis, Moore and Howe to be under the Direction of Gen. Lee who was now voted to Command to the Southward. Thompson is to join L^d Stirling at N York. An Addition was made to the Salary of Joseph Reed Esq. Sec^{ry} to Gen. Washington, he had before 66 Dollars p^r month it was now made 100

under Pretence that he is obliged to act as Secr'y to the Naval Departm^t too, this was on Motion of Harrison. A Chest full of Acco^{ts} transmitted from the Assembly or Government of Mass^a Bay hither for Settlem^t was referred to the Com^{ee} of Claims, a Person attends from thence to explain them. A Petition was presented but not now acted upon, from a large Number of Philadelphians pray'g the Congress to grant Leave for Privateers and Letters of Marque to seize the Ships of G Britain Ireland and the other British Dominions. Adj^d till Monday

Tuesday 5 March Letters from Gen^l Schuyler, Wooster and L^d Stirling, part of one of Schuylers was com^d to 3. it was concerning a supposed Invitation from Gov^r Penn to the 6 Nations to meet Him at Philad^a. Andrew Allen said he had made particular Inquiry into the Report and assured the Congress it was groundless. the other Letters were referred to a former Com^{ee} an Order passed to furnish the first and 3^d Jersey Reg^{ts} with Medicine Chests. the Com^{ee} on the Wyoming Papers recommended that they be referred to the Penns^a Assembly which was done accordingly. 4 or 5 Hours were spent in Grand Com^{ee} Col Harrison in the Chair, on Lord Drummonds Letter to Gen. Robertson Wyth offered a Sett of Propos^s import'g that no Public Bodies or private Persons other than the Congress or the People at large ought to treat for Peace &c which were negatived 8 colonies to 3 and one not fully represented, a Motion by W^m Livingston that L^d Drummond be sent for (from N York) to explain his Conduct non allocatur, Nothing more was done on it than the Letter ordered to remain with our Papers and the President desired to acquaint Gen. Washⁿ that the Congress agree in Sentiment with him on the Subject. the rest of the Gen^l Letter was referred to a former Com^{ee} it appeared that L^d Drummond had conversed with several Delegates as E. Rutledge, Wilson and Duane on the Subject of Pacification and, unauthorized by the Ministry, had thrown out his own Ideas of what the Ministry would concede and expect and had endeavored to draw from those Members what Congress would demand and accede to on their Part.

Wednesday 6 March the Votes of Yesterday read and some Letters from Gen Washington and others. some Motions among the King's Troops in Boston indicate that they intend soon to evacuate the Place, our Gen. intends to bombard the Town if he can get Powder but a Council of War have determined it not to be expedient at present. the Marine Com^{ee} was filled up (Sergeant for N Jersey). our Debts of Powder to Penns^a and N York ordered to be paid and 5 Tons ordered to the Southern Departm^t one Ton to the Lower Counties, one Ton to N Jersey and some to Maryland. the 350 Stand of Arms just arrived, were ordered, some of them to repay Penns^a and the Remainder to Waynes Battalⁿ now going to N York. A Motion by E Rutledge to send Major Hausaker to the Southward was carried in the Negative 6 Colonies to 5. On Motion of Harrison, Tho^s Bullet of Virginia was made Dep Adjutant Gen. with the Rank of L^d Col. Brig. Thomas was voted to command in Canada with the Rank of Major Gen. this was on Motion of E. Rutledge Hooper just returned from

Boston says that Cap^t Manley with 5 or 6 Privateers are laid up for Want of Powder (Manley soon got out again) A Motion to appoint the Field Officers for 4 Battal^s in N York was considered and postponed. the Business of finding and smelting Lead was given in Charge to the Saltpetre Com^{ee}. Willing Chairman of the Com^{ee} of Claims prayed Advice at what Period the Massach^s Bay may begin their Acco^s ag^t the Continent Whether from the Battle of Lexington or some Time before, this Point could not now be settled. Motion by Sherman to examine Tho^s Walker and M^r Price of Montreal before the House on the State of Canada, was opposed as unnecessary and dropt.

Thursday 7 March the Votes read and Letters from various Persons. Reports of Acco^s made and agreed to be paid. Harrison informed Congress that Major Isaac Melchior had grossly abused the President and damned Him and the Congress, the President had presented Him with a Captains Commission which was much below Melchiors Expectation (he went a Volunteer from Philad^a to Cambridge and from thence with Arnold over to Quebec) after long Debates on the Power of the Congress to commit, and on a Motion made by Harrison to declare Him incapable of serving the Continent hereafter, a Resolution drawn by Johnson took Effect which after shortly stating the Offence charged, orders Him to appear before Congress to morrow Morn'g at 11 oCloc to answer the same. An Applicatⁿ made by the Jersey Delegates in Favor of a Demand of Michael Kearney was com^d to the Com^{ee} on Gen Washingtons Letters, L^d Stirling had seized Kearneys Shallop and made Use of Her in taking the Blue Mountain Valley the Shallop being afterwards taken by the Enemy, the Prayer is for Compensation out of the Ship. the L^t Col of Thompsons Riflemen was promoted to the Regiment and the Eldest Cap^t made L^t Col. L^t Col. W^m Winds of Lord Stirling's was made Col and Matthias Ogden (who was at the Affair of Quebec) L^t Col. these Two were vacant by their Col^s becoming Brigadiers. Arms were ordered for the Powder Guards. 100,000 Doll^s advanced to Connecticut in Part of their Demand after much Fault found with them for not settling their Accounts. Hooper says the Eastern Demands ag^t Us are vastly great, that some Commissary there employs above Sixty Clerks at our Expen^{ce} &c

Friday 8. the Minutes read. the Field Officers of 4 N York Battalions were now elected by Ballot as usual. Isaac Melchior sent in a penitential Letter and attending according to Order was called in and acquainted by the President with the Particulars of the Charge ag^t Him, he pretended Ignorance of the Words but begged Pardon of the President and of the Congress for his bad Behavior, whereupon he was dismissed without Punishment in Consideration of his late Military Services. A Com^{ee} of 3 viz. Gerry, L Morris and Wolcott appointed to consider of the best Methods of victualling the Canadian Army, a Report was agreed to on this Subject and on the Gen^l Letters, by part whereof Peter Zabriskie is to be employed to convey Provisions to Albany, by another Article no Indian is to be employed in our Army without Leave of the Indian Nation

in Council and witho^t express Leave of Congress (this appeared to me a very absurd and impolitic Regulation). a long Altercation followed on the first Article of a Report made by John Adams for reconciling the Differences between the Generals Schuyler and Wooster, the Article was at last voted out and other Parts of the Report adopted. An Application to make M^r Price Dep Commissary of Canada was referred to our Gentⁿ now going there. Accounts transmitted from Canada by Col. Hazen of the Damages done to Him by our Soldiers who had destroyed or damaged his House at St Johns and killed his Cattle &c were referred to a Com^{ee} of 4 viz. Wyth, Ward, Sherman and S. Adams. Letters read from Gen Lee and others. E. Rutledge reported That the Com^{ee} had conferred with Gov^t Penn on the supposed Message to the 6 Nations who disclaimed any Knowledge of it. some Order was taken to inform Gen Schuyler hereof and to desire Him to send down the Person who had misinformed Him An Advance of 10,000 Dollars

[Half of one of the small pages of the original MS. is missing at this point. — *Saturday, March 9.*] Instruc[tions for the Commissioners] going to Canada and . . . of them took up 3 or 4 Hours . . . that Part recommend'g to them [to] form a Constitution and Governm^t for themselves without Limitation [of] Time which Jay and others said was an Independency and there was much Argum^t on this Ground

[Half a page missing. — *Monday, March 11.*] . . . in the Negative. Letters from L^d Stirling [and] Gen Lee, the latter being in Town desires to know how and when he may pay his Respects to Congress and recieve their Commands. A Com^{ee} of 3 viz R. H. Lee, E Rutledge and . . . was appointed to inquire of the General the best Methods of defending New York. Sherm[an re]ported an Inquiry into the Cau[se that] brings so many Indians (about . . . different Tribes) at present to Philad^a they only come, it seems, to see the Governor and recieve Presents from him as usual. Our Secret Com^{ee} of Correspondence, Harrison, Franklin and Dickinson were asked what they knew of the Disposition of France and other Foreign Powers and say they have not yet had Time to recieve Returns to their Dispatches.

Tuesday 12 March. In Com^{ee} of Claims we agreed to give Timothy Matlack and One Clerk employed by Him £6 ⁷/₈ Week for their Services (there are more Clerks employed by the Com^{ee}) . . . has had hitherto 15/⁷/₈ Diem [for] attend'g the Com^{ee} of Claims. In Congress the Votes were read. 20,000 Dollars advanced to Commissary Mease. 4 or 5 Hours were spent on the Instructions to our Canada Commiss^r they were gone thro but Chase offered some others in Addition which are to be considered tomorrow Wyth made a Report on Hazens Demand referring the Facts to be ascertained by the Commissioners which was confirmed.

Wednesday 13. the Votes read On Motion of Chase a Com^{ee} of 7, Duane at their Head, was chosen to consider of Ways and Means of raising Supplies. R Morris informed Congress that a Tender was sent from New York to cruize at our Capes; whereupon it was agreed that our Marine

Com^{ee} should purchase for the Continent a Maryland armed Brig now at Philad^a and send her immed'y to fight the Tender and to keep this Matter secret for the present 5 or 6 Barrels of Powder were allowed to Cecil County Maryland. a Letter read from the Com^{ee} at Eliz^a Town desiring some Powder, with other Letters. A Report made and allowed, from the Com^{ee} of Claims for paying the Music at D^r Smiths late Oration. from 12 oCloc till 4 the Congress was in Com^{ee} Gov^r Ward in the Chair, on the Petitions for allowing Privateers to cruize ag^t the English, Chase offered a Sett of Propositions and Wyth a Preamble, Willing and Johnson were the only Members who spoke directly and clearly ag^t the Measure, Jay was for a War against such only of the British Nation as are our Enemies, E. Rutledge was ag^t Privateering in any Case and for Letters of Marque in this Case, many Delegates were strongly for the Thing but the Determination was left till Tomorrow. D^r Franklin read some Extracts of Letters to Him from Paris giving a high Character of the Baron Woedtkte late a Major Gen of Cavalry in the Prussian Service and Aid du Camp to that King but now in Philad^a whither he came last from Paris.

Thursday 14 March. the Minutes read. R. H. Lee from a Com^{ee} reported Gen Lees Opinion about fortifying New York which was considered. he recommends 8000 Troops to be kept there which was agreed to and the foll'g Battal^s destined to that City viz Winds's late L^d Stirlings already there and Daytons from N Jersey Wayne's, Irwin's, Shee's and Magaws from Penns^a with the 4 N York Reg^{ts} now raising, it was moved that Hazletts from New Castle be also sent but this was postponed. W^m Livingston moved that a Day of General Fasting and Prayer be appointed which was relished and he desired to draw up his Motion. Some Acco^{ts} passed. much Time was spent in a Resolution to disarm the Tories generally, the Thing was not opposed but the Terms of the Resolves were fully discussed they passed at length and the Delegates of each Colony are to transmit them for Execution. A Letter was read from Brig. Prescott complain'g of a Breach of Capitulation in the Treatment of his Person and Effects it was referred to the Com^{ee} on Prisoners (myself One of them) to hear and examine the General and report to Congress, the Vote was taken to hear Him before the House but carried in the Negative

Friday 15. the Votes read and Letters from Gen Washington with a Packet of intercepted Letters, and Two Letters from Arthur Lee to W^m Temple and brought by Him from England sewed in the Lining of his Cloaths. our Troops have bombarded Boston with little Effect except that Howe and his Men are about to leave the Town, we burst 5 Mortars. Lee's Letters say that the Ministry cannot get Russians France having influenced Sweden to interfere, nor can the King make his Force here 20000 Men this Summer by any Means whatever, that France declares if Foreign Troops are sent She cannot be an idle Spectator, and is really disposed to favor our Cause &c A Letter from L^d Col W^m Allen informing that L^d Stirling has detained his 6 Companies at N York and a Letter from his Lordship explaining his Motives and saying that he has ordered Militia

from N York and Jersey to his Assistance. a Letter from Gen. Lee pray'g his Orders. The Congress in Com^{ee} (Col Harrison in the Chair) came to several Resol^s importing that Nelsons Comp'y of Riflemen shall march immed'y to N York, that the Troops detained by L^d Stirling shall proceed on their Destination to Canada, that the Colonies of Connecticut, N York and N Jersey shall be directed to hold their Militia in Readiness to march on the Requisition of the Command'g Officer at N York, that the Pay of such Militia shall be 5 Doll^s p^r Month &c the last occasioned great Debate the N England and Southern Pay being 50/ this Currency. J Adams moved that the Baron de Woedtke be made a Brig. Gen. and stationed at N York. this was rec^d favorably but not now settled. Agreed in Congress on motion of R H Lee that all General Officers travelling on the Public Service shall make a Charge of their Horses Keeping, the same Thing passed, on Motion of Harrison, some Days ago with respect to Aids du Camp. Lee and Franklin were desired to wait on Gen. Lee and request Him to repair from hence forthwith to his Southern Department. the Massachusetts raised (as is said by one of their Delegates) 18000 Men in the Beginning of this War, whereof 16000 were taken into Continental Pay and Service. an Order took place for arming the Guard which sets off this Even'g with the Powder for Virginia.

Saturday 16 March the Minutes read and sundry public Letters. W^m Livingston brought in the Draught of an Order for a General Fast which was agreed to and ordered to be published The Baron de Woedtke was unanim^y elected a Brig. Gen. and ordered to N York for the present and to go with the Commissioners to Canada. Congress resolved itself into a Com^{ee} on authorizing Privateers, Jay offered his Propositions he and others contended for discriminating Foes from Friends. D^r Franklin thought a Declaration of War ought to precede this Business there was no Determination. A Note of Hand from Gen Wooster to Tho^s Walker of Montreal Esq^r for 50 Half Joes with Interest, was presented for Payment, Chase and others objected to paying Interest as our Officers might run Us into an enormous Debt, it was postponed. The Accounts of M^r Price of Montreal were offered for Adjustment and referred to the Com^{ee} of Claims, this Gent^l and his Partner M^r Haywood have lent great Sums to our Army there. Carpenter Wharton the Commissary was authorized to continue victualling the Penn^a Troops after their Arrival in N York.

Monday 18 March the Votes read. 20,000 Dollars advanced to Commissary Mease. some Promotions made in One of the Virginia Reg^{ts} in Consequence of Col. Henry's Resignation. the Congress was again in Com^{ee} on the privateering Business, several Resolut^s were come to after an able Debate. by the first, Leave is to be given to commission Privateers and Letters of Marque to cruize on British Property the Vote stood thus, For the Resolution New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, N York, Virginia and North Carolina, against it Penn^a and Maryland, the other Colonies not sufficiently represented to vote, Ireland was excepted and the other British Domin^s with the Consent of all but Chase

and myself (it appearing to me very absurd to make War upon Part only of the Subjects and especially after the Irish Parl^t had declared decisively ag^t Us) Leave for the Com^{ee} to sit again on the same Affair. R H Lee moved to take Mons^r Arundel and another Frenchman into the Southern Departm^t which was opposed by D^r Franklin and referred to our Com^{ee} for consider^g the Application of Foreigners.

Tuesday 19. Minutes read. 250,000 Dollars advanced to Gen Washington and 50,000 to Gen Schuyler, The Com^{ee} of the whole went thro the Articles on Privateers and they were referred to Wyth and Two others to prepare a Preamble. Vacancies in several Committees were filled up. A Captain of Artillerys Commission ordered to Mons^r Arundel. Wyth made a Report for the Appointment of a Commissary of Prisoners which was recommitted and for recompensing Michael Kearney for the Loss of his Boat which was confirmed. A Ton of Powder was ordered for the Vessel of War here and ready to go down to guard Delaware Bay. sundry public Letters read and some of them Commit^d. Johnson threw out for Consideration the Propriety of establishing a Board of Treasury, a War Office, a Board of Public Accounts and other Boards to consist of Gentⁿ not Members of Congress. the Draught of a Commission to D^r Franklin, Chase and Carrol was bro^t in and some additional Instructions. In the Even^g S. Adams, Wilson and myself spent an Hour with Gen Prescott at the new Tavern, he was open and free, endeavored to justify every Thing by the Commands of Carlton and explained at large his Complaints.

Wednesday 20 March. the Minutes of yesterday were read with Letters from L^d Stirling and others. The Commission and Instructions to the Canada Commissioners were canvassed and finished, by One Clause any Two of them are allowed to abate Fortifications and to construct any so as not to exceed 100,000 Dollars. some Com^{ees} were filled up. Major Brixon lately from England being recommend^d for the Service in Canada in Quality of an Engineer a Com^{ee} was raised to consider the Application. several Acco^{ts} allowed. E Rutledge moved that Magaws Regiment may be furnished with Pikes they having no Guns, it was desired also for several other Reg^{ts} the Matter was debated and left for further Consideration. On like Motion Col Magaw was allowed 3000 Dollars on Acco^t to purchase Arms with. S. Adams reported about the Prisoners at Trenton

Thursday 21. the Votes read. Col Charles Stewart of Hunterdon directed to muster Cap^t Woolvertons Comp^y who offer themselves for the Service and 600 Dollars were allowed the Col for their Use. John Adams from a Com^{ee} reported some Resolutions which were amended and passed recommending to the Colonies to encorage the Culture of Flax, Hemp, Cotton and the Increase of Wool, to form a Society in each Colony for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures Agriculture and Commerce &c these were ordered to be published, a Clause was erased for a standing Com^{ee} of Congress to correspond with and assist these Societies. A Com^{ee} of 3 was appointed to superintend and hasten the Printing of the Journal. some Letters and Papers from N Carolina were read giving

an Acco^t of the Defeat of the Tories by Col. Caswell, Brig. Gen Donald Mc^donald is taken Prisoner, Cap^t Mac Leod and other Officers killed. Harrison moved that Gen Washington do discharge all the unarmed Men in his Camp when he has used his Endeavors without Success to arm them, which was carried after some Opposition. Mons^r le Chevalier de S^t Hillaire was made Cap^t of an Independent Comp^y and ordered to Canada.

Friday 22 March. Votes read and Letters from Gen Washⁿ L^d Stirling and others. D^r Franklin moved that 750 Doll^s be advanced to the Baron de Woedtke out of his Pay and this was agreed to, he moved also to present the Baron with 250 Dollars to bear his Expences in coming over Sea and to buy Horses &c Lee and others supported the Motion which was opposed by Duane & al. and carried in the Negative Wyth reported the Preamble about Privateering, he and Lee moved an Amend^t wherein the King was made the Author of our Miseries instead of the Ministry, it was opposed on Supposition that this was effectually severing the King from Us forever and ably debated for 4 Hours when Maryland interposed its Veto and put it off till Tomorrow, Chief Speakers for the Amend^t Lee, Chase, Serjeant, Harrison, against it Jay, Wilson, Johnson. Willing presented Heard's Accounts and asked Whether Congress would allow Pay to the Minute Men who went on the late Expedition to Queens County, this was denied and the Acco^t amounting to £2300 and upwards docked to £800 and odd, the Feriages being above £60 were allowed, Willing moved for a Standing Rule that only Half Ferriage shall be hereafter taken for Soldiers, but other Business intervened. A Petition from a Sufferer in the Disputes at Wyoming was committed to 3, after Objection that it was improper for our Cognizance. Agreed to grant Commissions to Cap^t W^m Shippen and his Officers who are about to cruize in a Privateer on or out of Chesapeak Bay, agreed also to sell Him lb 300 of Powder.

Saturday I was not present but inter alia 30,000 Dollars were advanced to Commissary Lowrey.

Monday 25 March. Votes read and Letters from Gen Washⁿ President Tucker and many more. Howes Troops have abandoned Boston and our People are in Possession. John Adams moved that the Thanks of the Congress be given to the Officers there for their good Conduct and that a Gold Medal be struck with a proper Device and presented to M^r Washington, accordingly J Adams and 2 more were appointed a Com^{ee} for those Purposes. S Adams from a Com^{ee} reported Major Brixon as fit to be Adjutant General in Canada with the Rank of Brigadier, this was objected to, by Allen particularly, and the Report recommitted. R H. Lee moved that Gen Washⁿ be directed to detach from his Army 4 Battal^s to Canada if the Service will admit, he was supported by Johnson and Duane and strongly opposed by Harrison but the Motion passed in the Affirmative, A Report for appointing a Commissary General in Canada was much agitated, M^r Price was proposed but it appeared that one Halstead was in Possession at Quebec, by Consent of Congress and that Walter Livingston had been appointed, the Report was negatived, an incidental

Question was debated Whether Schuyler or Thomas was to have the chief Command and whether Canada was a distinct Department. 20,000 Dollars advanced to the Virginia Troops. Johnson made a Report inter alia, that 2 Battalions now on Foot in South Carolina and 3 in Virginia should be put upon Continental Pay and Establish^t which passed without any Negative but my own.

Tuesday 26. a Com^{ee} of 3 viz Hopkins, S. Adams and Wolcott named to take Order about the Funeral of Gov^r Ward who died last Night of the Small Pox and to invite the Rev. M^r Stillman to preach a Sermon, the Congress agreed to attend the Funeral as Mourners, to wear Mourning for a Month, to invite the Gen Assembly and other Public Bodies and to do no Business till the Funeral is over, only Hooper going Home desired that North Carolina may, if they think it necessary raise Two more Battal^s upon Continental Pay and Establishment which was granted, no Man but myself dissenting. the Pay of the Maryland Minutemen who lately went to Virginia settled at 50/. Commodore Douglass ordered to his Command on the Lakes. Adj^d till Thursday 10 O Cloc

Thursday 28 March the Votes read and Letters from Pres^t Tucker and others our Colony has raised on their own Bottom 4 Companies to be stationed in Midd^x and Monmouth and our Militia are marching to N York or Staten Isl^d under their Brigadiers Dickenson and W^m Livingston. M^cKean informed Congress that the Tory Prisoners in Philad^a Goal have attempted an Escape and have provided Implements and a Ladder to escape this Night whereupon M^r M^cKean is to direct the Sheriff to confine Conolly Smith and Kirkland seperately and get a sufficient Guard from the Barracks. 20,000 Dollars advanced to Commissary Mease and 1000 to Fairlamb Commissary to Waynes Battalion. R. H. Lee moved sundry Resol^s which were negated as for a Dep. Commissary General to be established in Virginia and for Aids du Camp to the Brigadier (Armstrong) command^d there, he moved also for Two Engineers there which passed. Dugan of Canada presented with 1000 Dollars for his past Services and created a Major with the Rank of L^t Col. he is to have the Command of 3 Companies of Rangers in Canada and to name all his Officers this was in Consequence of a Report made by Harrison from a Committee. R. Morris moved to purchase another Ship on Continental Acco^t in this Harbor to be fitted out for the Protection of Delaware Bay which was granted. A Petition from Tho^s Walker of Montreal setting forth his Sufferings from Prescott and Carlton and praying Redress was considered and left undetermined, M^r Walker soon after returned to Montreal without Redress and his Case on Oath was published in Bradfords Paper about 1 May. Ritzma elected Col. of a N York Battalⁿ

Friday 29 March. Votes read and Letters from the Com^{ee} of Safety at New York, from Gen Schuyler, Gen Wooster and a Letter from Vice President Fisher of New Jersey praying Congress to reconsider Heards Acco^s and grant Pay to his Minute Men On Motion of Lee a Report was taken up on Canadian Affairs and after Debate M^r Price was elected

Deputy Commissary with a Salary of 60 Dollars $\frac{7}{8}$ Month Trumbull the Commissary General has 80 Dollars $\frac{7}{8}$ Month. M^r. Price is to have the Canadian Department, some Articles of the Report were expunged. (our Com^{ee} of Safety have ordered £200 for the Use of their Delegates here). the Modes of supplying the Treasury were considered.

Saturday 30 March. I was not present but among other Things ut audiui, Heards Acco^{ts} were reconsidered and the whole Demand allowed.

I went Home to Burlington on Sunday having suffered in my Health by a close Attendance on Congress.